
ARENA REPORT

Volume II, Number 13

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Friday, March 16, 1990

Bayfront Center
St. Petersburg, FL
and

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Saturday, March 17, 1990

Orlando Arena
Orlando, FL

Welcome to double report action from "AR". It's been a wild three weeks since we last met and this issue will show just that. Eight pages won't be enough for this baby so I expanded this issue to what may be 9 or 10 pages. Besides the above two live reports, we have another edition of "A Piece Of My Mind" with Evan Ginzburg, "It's My 2-Cents" with Mike Terry, and bunches of letters and correspondent reports. I'd like to welcome a key correspondent to the "Arena Report" family and that is Scott Hudson from Atlanta, GA. Scott will be providing us with NWA TV tapes as they occur at Center Stage as well as some other Georgia cities. You'll find one of his reports in this issue from Marietta.

We'll be following up this issue with another one coming at you next week. The PWF and IWA (Rob Russen's group (?)) will be taping at the Manatee Civic Center on 3/24 with the PWF guys joining Kerry Von Erich, Jerry Lawler, Dick Slater, the Fantastics, Jules Strongbow and others. So that will be my second issue for this month. Jersey Joe Mullins conclusion to the supposed get together in Detroit will be featured in his column, "Cosmic Clothesline." That and a whole lot more next week. I will also have the first part of my career as a wrestling fan in next weeks issue. I promise I'll make it as interesting as possible. Hey, when you've lived in as many places as I have, well you get the picture.

"Arena Report" is published twice per month at the cost of 75¢ per issue. There should be a number at the top left hand corner of this page telling you how many issues you have left on your subscription. Welcome to everyone trying "AR" for the first time. I hope you enjoy it as much as everyone tells me they do. All subs, renewals, letters, match reports, and the like may be sent to Ron Lemieux, 916 Sloewood Ct. Lake Mary, FL 32746. Enough of this, let's go to the Gulf Coast and the NWA.

Opening Match

Eddie Gilbert beat Cuban Assassin in 10:53 when he reversed a flying body press from Cubie. Gilbert back to wearing trunks instead of tights. Looks in the best shape of his career. Cuban a sub for Samu who was in the tag match upcoming. Match nothing special. ½*

Tag Team Match

Tommy Rich & Johnny Ace defeated Samoans (Fatu & Samu). Savage a no-show. These Samoans must have NWA officials guessing every night on which one won't show up. Rich a sub for the injured Shane Douglas. The Rich-Buzz Sawyer match was scrapped due to Buzz's injury. Samoans insisted on quiet for their ritual. Too much stalling. At one

point, Fatu was nailing Rich with a chair. Good thing TBS officials didn't see that, heavens. Samu was holding Ace when Fatu went for a clothesline but Johnny ducked, Samu got clobbered and Ace rolled up Fats. Rich looked like he may have hurt his leg here. Great, another wounded soldier. $\frac{1}{2}$ * Time was 12:03

3rd Match

Norman beat Kevin Sullivan in 5:48. Sully attacked before the bell and used the house mic on Normie's belly. Cactus Jack (my hero) came out on the apron and the ex-lunatic threw Sully into him and scored the pinfall. Norman beat up on Cactus until Kevin came in with a 10 foot lead pipe. Real wild. Left Loonie laying. * for brawl

4th Match

Mike Rotunda pinned Cactus Jack in 8:28. Rotunda looks goofy in that captains outfit. Jack took his usual two great bumps per match. First he set up Mike at the guard rail for a clothesline but Mike ducked and Manson sailed over the rail. Rotunda then suplexed him back over. Mike won with a small package as Manson had attempted a bodyslam. **

Chicago Street Fight

Road Warriors upended Doom in 8:04. A street fight yet they all wore regular wrestling garb. Reed & Simmons annihilated Hawk at the start. Great action throughout. Butch & Ron need to stop hanging together so much. They look too much alike. Sugar Ray Long is hilarious. Animal pinned Reed after a clothesline. Afterwards, Doom held Ellering as Long took some body shots at Paul. This will set up their upcoming boxing feud. ** $\frac{1}{2}$

NWA Tag Team Championship

Rick & Scott Steiner retained their titles by beating Minnesota Wrecking Crew II in 9:59. Crew II was Wayne Bloom & Mike Enos from AWA fame. Ole Anderson was out as their manager. Steiners are over huge as they should be. Bloom got on the top rope but Rick pushed him off into Enos and Scott pinned Mean Mike. Good bout. ***

NWA World Championship

Ric Flair pinned Lex Luger in 17:24 to retain the World title. This match was better than Greensboro. No rest holds, (match was shorter though) All out action. Tons of heat. Sodas flying through the air, cups and even someone's shoe came into the ring. Harry White's type of excitement. Was there a pocket in that shoe? Security took Woman to the dressing room before the finish which made me realize they were going to a screw job finish. Righto. Ole who was at ringside, got on the apron but Lex clotheslined him off. The ref took the bump, Luger got Flair in the rack and Ole came into the ring and decked Lex with an object. He put Flair on top and the ref counted three while Ole held Luger's leg off the ropes. Good sequence although the fans were pissed and rightfully so. **** $\frac{1}{2}$

St. Pete Notes

Gary Cappetta announced Gordon Slowly before the show and the fans went nuts. Don't forget, Gordon is a legend in Florida. He and a Tampa sportscaster will be doing a segment during the NWA show on a CBS affiliate on Sat. mornings in Tampa. Maybe they'll work this area more.... Speaking of which, they sold out tonight to the tune of 7,100, yet no return date announced. No, go back to Dayton, OH and draw 1,700... Klondike Bill is really with it. He rang the bell tonight and during intermission I saw him shake Johnny Ace's hand and say good match. What was he looking

for? I'm afraid of that answer.... In the latest "Wrestling Wrapup", there is a story on Pillman and Zenk titled "Ultimate Challenge". What a shot... After the show, Cheryl and myself went across the street to the Hilton but no one showed up. Can't believe they would make the 3 and a half hour drive to Daytona tonight instead of tomorrow. First four matches were not that good but last three were decent. I realize I can never hate an NWA show and after tonight's sleepfest with the Fed I realize it even more.... Speaking of which, let's travel back to Orlando for a night with the Fed....

Opening Match

Al Perez defeated Red Rooster in 15:44 with a nice german suplex and bridge. Bout was pretty good. Terry did a nice belly to back suplex and Al came back with a good neckbreaker. Finishing sequence was done great. **

2nd Match

Hillbilly Jim beat Frenchy Martin with a boot to the face in 8:38. I can't grade this. It was the absolute worst match I've ever seen. If I ever say there is a match I hated the most in the future, remind me of this one. Most excitement was Jim putting his hat on ring announcer's head and dancing with him. A funny spot saw Martin try a cartwheel.

Return Match

Rick Martel pinned Brutus Beefcake in 11:56 when Brutus rolled up Rick but the Model pulled the tights and reversed the pin. Bad -*

Tag Team Match

Bushwhackers beat Bolsheviks in a loooooong 17:20. Fans were chanting for Butch when he was in a pickle. Surprised these arm waving Orlando morons knew who was Butch and who was Luke. Good guess. Zhukov took his boot off to smack Luke but Butch stole it and planted one on Boris's "Alien Nation" head. 1/*

5th Match

Jim Neidhart beat Dino Bravo via DQ in 10:22. "Anvil" did a nice power-slam. Bravo pushed the ref into a Neidhart shoulderblock. Dino and Jim stood around waiting for Hebner to get up. When he did, he rang the bell and dq'd Bravo. Quick finish but I'm not complaining. -**

Main Event-Tag Team Match

Hulk Hogan & Big Boss Man beat Curt Hennig & The Genius in 13:50. Perfect played a good Raggedy Curt until he hit Hulk with Poffo's scroll. Decent action throughout. Poffo beat on Boss Man with the nightstick. It was funny watching him bring it back to the timekeeper and hand it to him. Hogan got the hot tag, put a boot in Poffo's face and cradled him. Surprised no leg drop. ***

Orlando Notes

I didn't think there would be anything Vince does that would shock me but tonight I did. After the main event, Hogan pulled Lanny's trunks down revealing his bare behind. He then put him over his knee and spanked him. Boss Man also took the nightstick to Poffo. Parents around me weren't too happy. One of these days, Vince will go too far.... I wish this one guy behind me would have gotten the refs name right. It's Hebner, not Heffner you moron... Crowd was a low 8,300 in a 15,000 building. Not good with Hulk on the card. NWA Daytona show expected to sell out tonight... They return (WWF) to Orlando 5/5.

A Piece Of My Mind
by Evan Ginzburg

Third column already! Thanks for all the positive feedback and hope you continue to enjoy... without further adieu..

"Paul Is Dead Dept."

The younger readers may not remember this, but in the 60's, rumor floated around that Paul McCartney was dead (some acid tripping yoyo reportedly played a Beatles album backwards and heard the words "Paul is dead!"). Well, the same stories had been floating around about our own Paul, Orndorff that is. People have been passing around the old "Mr. Wonderful has done one too many steroids" rumor. Inside fans, however, know that he's been a businessman in recent years, and has also made a mini comeback. I saw him wrestle Wayne Bloom at Dickinson High School in N.J. on 2/16. Looking real sharp, the place went nuts for Paul. (Especially when he gave back his \$10,000 battle royal winnings to the school band! A helluva guy that Mr. Wonderful, huh?) In short, he was the best looking corpse I've ever seen.

By the way, I own about 800 albums and I've never played one of them backwards. Am I missing out on something?

Indie Blues

Speaking of the above indie card (which was pretty enjoyable actually) I did note one disturbing trend. With all the available talent floating around the independant circuit, must every East Coast card have to feel like a WWF old timers' show? Bam Bam Bigelow, Iron Mike Sharpe, S.D. Jones etc. made it seem like I was in a time warp. Let's see more of Lawler, Gordy, Pritchard etc. and a little less of Super Dull Jones. o.k? Why I'll Stop Picking On Dino Bravo Dept.

Does anyone remember Dino Bravo as a young lion in the WWF? That's going back over a decade and 20 pounds ago. Add a bad dye job, worthless interviews, and his mastery of the five minute headlock, and we're not painting a pretty picture here folks. However, I actually remember the man in matches where he appeared almost conscious (a treat that WWF fans of the late 80's have not been priveleged to see). The same cannot be said for goofballs like Hillbilly Jim and Bore-Us to death Zhukov who may never have once had a decent match in their entire nightmarish careers. Maybe it's time to give Dino the Dinosaur a break and move on to bigger and badder game.

Commercial Interuption Time

Issue #2 of my new bulletin, Wrestling-Then & Now is available at \$1.25 a copy/6 issues for \$6.00 from P.O. Box 471, Oakland Gdns. Station Flushing, NY 11364. News, nostalgia, and comedy. I'd tremendously appreciate your support! We're now returning you to our regularly scheduled column...

They Don't Make Heads Like That Anymore Dept.

I've recently returned to the classroom and have come up with another exciting teaching device. If you show a picture of certain heads, it's a great way to teach shapes. For example, Sid Vicious cranium is a perfect square... Jim Ross's head is an ideal circle... the possibilities are endless! Don't you wish you had a teacher as creative as me when you were a kid?

Memories Of Haystacks

Mention the name Haystacks Calhoun to any long time fan and you'll get the same reaction...a BIG smile. Haystacks was never a great wrestler but he was surprisingly fast for his immense size (billed at 601 pounds but somewhat exaggerated). His "lucky horseshoe" often got involved in his matches, and he had some legitamate hot battles against the Valiant Brother in the 70's (generally with tag partner Tony Garea). Calhoun was a world wide attraction and in one feud, he went to California's Olympic to battle

fellow behemoth Man Mountain Mike. In the 60's, Bruno Sammartino once picked up and slammed Calhoun and this added to Bruno's legend.

Haystacks died a few months back, but whenever someone mentions his name, I really can't help but smile. What better tribute is there than that?.... Catch everybody next time!

It's My 2-Cents

by Mike Terry

Superstar Billy Graham's opinion that steroid use isn't worth the eventual cost might get some argument. We are not a society known for considering the consequences of our actions while pursuing the pleasures of the present. Drinkers continue to drink; smokers smoke; speeders speed; thieves steal; wrestlers use steroids. What's more likely to enter the decision factor: the possibility he might be crippled or dead in twenty years? Or the money he'll make? The lifestyle he'll live? The things he'll be able to give his family? The adulation from the crowd? To be somebody. To achieve. To succeed. It's something to think about.

Lame retread gimmicks of the month: Yukon John Nord...Jimmy Hart... getting pantsed...the perenial Monsoon-Heenan squabbles about Bobby promising big event tickets to friends...Mean Gene's remarks about Hillbilly Jim's smell.

Wasted talent: Sir Oliver Humperdink...Missy Hyatt.....Seperated at birth: Lee Marshall and Pugsly Adams.....I know its almost sacrilege to disagree with Dave Meltzer, but I find Ultimate Warrior's Wrestlemania VI interviews quite captivating....Jimmy Jam Garvin could use some time jammin' in a gym.... Do you ever watch the credits after a movie or TV show? I always do. I guess I have a compulsion to know who the "best boy" and "key grip" were. Imagine my surprise after Clash X at seeing a credit for "Audio Sweetning".

So Rick Martel has "Arragance". I suppose other wrestlers will want their own fragrances too. Let's see: (Whatever happened to) Elizabeth-Innocence, Vince McMahon--"Decadence", Verne Gagne--"Obsolescence", Ted DiBiase--"Opulence", and Dusty Rhodes--"Flatulence". Your right. A cheap shot, but somebody has to do it. Until next month, it's my 2-cents.

Correspondent Reports

Prairie Capitol Convention Center
Correspondent: Chris Martin

Springfield, IL

March 8, 1990

1) Tugboat Thomas squashed Bob Bradley. Lots of fans tooting. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 2) Rick Martel pinned Brutus Beefcake with the ropes. Martel had to spray his "arrogance" because Chris said the crowd smelled. Chris noted it must have been from the earlier "tooting". ** 3) Pat Tanaka & Mr. Fuji beat Mark Young and Paul Roma as Sato no showed. Tanaka worked the entire match. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 4) Colossal Connection downed Demolition by count out. $\frac{1}{2}$ ** 5) Bret Hart cradled Greg Valentine. Chris loves the Honkey Shake performed by the "Hammer". ** 6) Jake Roberts & Ultimate Warrior beat Ted DiBiase & Akeem when Warrior splashed the dream. Bout went 11:20 and Warrior wrestled :40 of it. Hillbilly guest reffed instead of Boss Man. Jake DDT'd Virgil after bout and heels left him laying. *** Att: 3,581

Montreal Forum

Montreal, Canada

March 9, 1990

Correspondent: Francois Lalonde

1) Al Perez (sub for Mike Sharpe) defeated Paul Roma when he reversed a flying body press in 12:14. * 2) Koko Ware (sub for Hillbilly) beat Buddy Rose with a flying dropkick in 11:04. Rose had his "I worked hard

for this body." T-shirt on. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 3) Rockers & Hacksnore Duggan beat Powers of Pain & Mr. Fuji in 15:43 with the same finish as everywhere. ** 4) Bad News Brown pinned Terry Taylor (sub for Snuka) in 8:12. Dud. 5) Ron Garvin beat Rick Rude via DQ in 12:33. "Ragged" Ron a sub for Piper. Bad News interfered for the DQ. Dud 6) Tito Santana beat Frenchy Martin with the flying jalapeno in 7:48. -* 7) Hulk Hogan & Big Boss Man beat Curt Hennig & The Genius in 13:04 with the Hogan leg bomb. *** Att: 15,002

Pershing Auditorium

Lincoln, NE

March 10, 1990

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Red Rooster beat Bob Bradley in 13:09 with a flying press. Neither guy worked. 2) Akeem downed Hercules using a powerslam in 12:28. Slick made this match enjoyable with his ringside antics. He was also attacked by three ringsiders (no, not Bruce) until security dragged them away. 3) Hacksaw Duggan beat Rick Rude using the ropes in 10:00. Fans were chanting U.S.A. I guess we're at war with Minnesota now. 4) Pat Tanaka & Mr. Fuji beat Mark Young & Pez Whatley in 10:00. No Akio Sato. Tanaka worked the whole match. 5) Rockers beat Powers of Pain via DQ in 9:18. Good match with fast action. Barbarain hit ref Hebner for DQ. As Rockers went back to dressing room, Michaels blew some snot on Bruce and friends. Hebner told Bruce NWA sucks. Nice guys. 6) Dusty Rhodes beat Randy Savage on a count out at 5:00. Sherri and Sapphire stole the show on this on. Att: 3,516

Providence Civic Center

Providence, RI

March 10, 1990

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Al Perez reversed a flying body press to pin Paul Roma in 13:15. 2) Hillbilly Jim (sub for Duggan) beat Bad News Brown via count out in 5:52. Brown missed a punch outside and hit the ringpost and Jim jumped in to beat the count. 3) Tito Santana used the flying forearm to beat Buddy Rose in 11:38. 4) Hart Foundation defeated Colossal Connection via DQ in 9:17. Bret and Haku worked well. Andre and Hachoo were caught double teaming Bret to earn the DQ. 5) Greg Valentine beat Sam Houston (sub for Snuka) with the figure four leglock in 8:28. 6) Brutus Beefcake pinned Rick Martel in 9:52. Not bad. Beefer was on the ring apron and went for a sunset flip but the "Model" grabbed the ropes. Ref kicked Rick's hands off and Bruti pinned him. 7) Hulk Hogan & Big Boss Man defeated Curt Hennig & The Genius in 13:37 as Hogan slammed Poffo and dropped an elbow bomb on him. Att: 7,500

The Omni

Atlanta, GA

March 11, 1990

Correspondent: Scott Hudson

1) Johnny Ace beat Samoan Fatu on an over the top rope DQ at 7:40. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 2) Mike Rotunda rolled up Cactus Jack in 9:09 after a false finish that Manson thought he had won. Dud 3) Brian Pillman & Tom Zenk downed The Freebirds in 14:51 as Steve Casey was holding Z-Man and Garvin came off the second rope but hit Casey who was pinned. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 4) Norman rolled up Kevin Sullivan in 6:00. Manson interfered after bout. Sully went nuts and threw a "shoot" punch at ref Nick Patrick. $\frac{1}{4}$ * 5) Road Warriors beat Doom in 6:25. Both Doom members were coming off the ropes when Animal tripped Reed and Hawk pinned Simmons. Good match. Animal took a wild bump over rail. They tripled on Precious Paul afterwards. ** $\frac{1}{4}$ 6) Rick & Scott Steiner defeated Wrecking Crew II in 12:01 as Rick steinerlined Bloom and Scott scored the pin. ** 7) Ric Flair used Norman's finisher to pin Lex Luger at 18:51 as Ole held Ric's hands for leverage..A fan threw a bannana in the ring. Probably was Terry Funk signifying Ric's

nose. They did a great false finish which was the actual finish in St. Pete. *** Att: 8,025

Meodowlands Arena

East Rutherford, NJ

March 11, 1990

Correspondent: Elyse Zois

1) Greg Valentine pinned Sam Houston after doing some Honkey gyrations, 2) Harts won by DQ over Andre & Haku as the latter were DQ'd for double doings on Bret. Elyse says Andre's mind remembers the moves but his body refuses. 3) Rick Rude beat Tito Santana after Tito missed the flying jalapeno. 4) Dusty Rhodes beat Randy Savage via count out as Dusty hit Randy with Sherri's purse. 5) Al Perez pinned Paul Roma with same flying press reversal. 6) Bushwhackers beat Bolsheviks using all their Three Stooges moves. Boris got conked with his own boot to set up the pin. A little boy behind Elyse told his mom he was going to take a nap. Smart kid. 7) Jake Roberts pinned Ted DiBiase after special ref Boss Man slugged Brother Million. Virgil got DDT'd once again. The guy's brain must be mush. Att: 15,000

Cobb County Civic Center

Marietta, GA

March 12, 1990

Correspondent: Scott Hudson

This was a TBS taping for the weekends of 3/24 and 3/31. I'll give highlights. TBS 3/24- Samoans beat Tommy Rich & Eddie Gilbert. Rich hit Fatu with a Thesz press but Samoan Savage used a diving headbutt to lay out "Wildfire", who was pinned. *74 ... Roadie Animal beat Ron Simmons on a DQ. Hawk and Reed both came out. Butch tripped Animal for DQ. Teddy Long then knocked out Paul Ellering.... Norman appeared at ring-side with a huge black box and said there was a good boogie man in it. Oh no, not Jimmy Valiant.... TBS 3/31- Mike Rotunda is wrestling Cuban Assassin when out comes Norman and his box. Sullivan & Manson hit the ring and Norman joins for a 4 way. Out of the box bursts Abdullah the Butcher and he goes wild on Sully and Cactus. Abby a face! Gee, I wonder where this is going. Abby, Slaughterhouse. Hmmm.... Eddie Gilbert pinned Jimmy Garvin in what Scott said was the worst match on TBS since the buyout. Rock N' Roll came out and when Garvin went to suplex Gilbert back in the ring, Ricky Morton tripped him and Eddie got the win. Att: 2,000

Springfield Civic Center

Springfield, MA

March 17, 1990^{ca}

Correspondent: Dan Reilly

1) Tito Santana pinned Buddy Rose with his usual finisher in 12:52. Good comedy by "Playboy". ** 2) Earthquake pinned Ron Garvin after 4 splashes in 7:14. Dan said Ronnie would have done a stretcher job but they didn't have one. 1/2* 3) Jimmy Snuka beat Bad News on a DQ for no apparent reason at 8:31. 4) Rockers & Hercules beat Powers of Pain & Mr. Fuji in 15:40. Michaels was the rag doll here. Fuji entered the ring at 15:10 and was pinned at 15:40 when Jannetty rolled him up while the master was going for salt. *45) Paul Roma powerslammed Bob Bradley in 10:14. Both tried hard but the crowd didn't care. * 6) Mark Young pinned Pete Doherty after a Frankenyoungsteiner at 6:47. Dud. 7) Jake Roberts & Ultimate Warrior downed Akeem & Ted DiBiase in 12:26 as Warrior splashed Akeem. Jake worked most of the match. *** Att: 4,800
When Wrestlemania line-up was announced, the fans booed Hogan and not one single boo for Warrior.

Ramblings

The NWA continues to suffer from lack of depth in its roster due to injury, no shows etc. The latest casualty is Michael Hayes who was recently suspended for testing positive for drugs. How come I'm not surprised... Tony Schiavone due to return to the NWA after Wrestlemania. Tony's decision, not Titans. Talk is he will become executive producer of the syndie shows.... In a related note, Paul E. Dangerously has auditioned for the "Wrestling Challenge" play by play. Titan could go back to Monsoon-Heenan although they rather not... Congrats to "Matwatch" editor Steve Beverly who now has a Tuesday night segment on the NWA's Wrestling Hotline... Looks like the Samoans are being jobbed out. Samu recently submitted to Luger's torture rack. They're more problem than they are worth... How come I think they won't let Flair get a clean pin on Johnny Ace during tonights "Main Event" show... I have some questions on bringing Abby in. You want to eliminate blood and gore but you bring in the man who has juiced more than Ultimate Warrior. Abby is zero without his blood gimmick. As a face? Please.... The two rumors going around this week were: 1) 5 NWA guys in a car crash. and 2) Warrior having a massive heart attack. Neither true. Talk about crying wolf. This is like the third time that Warrior rumor started. When it does happen, no one will believe it. Notice I said when and not if... Thanks to Cody Boynes for having me on his "Wrestling Rap" radio show two days after Wrestle War... "Arena Reporter" Scott Dickinson recently returned from a New Zealand wrestling tour run by Don Muraco. Scott reffed the matches on the tour which included Dynamite Kid, Johnny Smith, Chavo and Mando Guerrero and a couple of Larry Sharpe's boys. Also Jim Powers. They will be doing another one mid April... PWF was to start up Orlando on 3/9 however the arena wasn't ready as the indoor soccer league that Mike Graham is leasing it out to hadn't finished converting it to dimensions of soccer field. They are set to return now on April 6.... Northeast Championship Wrestling put on a show in New Bedford, MA with Junkyard Dog beating Samoan Afa in the main before 300 people... The IWF put on a show 3/10 with Chris Duffy beating Jason the Terrible on top via DQ in South Weymouth, MA. "AR" reporter Don Laible managed Jason. Don works as "The Bug". Att:350... Paul MacArthur puts out a newsletter called "Wrestling Perspective". Good analysis on several important issues in the wrestling business. Good read. Contact Paul at P.O. Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031. It sells for \$1 an issue.

Letters To The Editor

Harry Speaks

Through my usual lackadaisical attitude and bad habit of procrastination, I have made the mistake of letting my "Arena Report" subscription lapse. As most married men know, putting off buying your wife a gift is no big deal. But in Greensboro, I found out how much info and fun I have been missing from not getting "Arena Report". I also found out how well respected "AR" has become. Of all the national and international wrestling press attending Greensboro, (Apter, Napolitano, Suzuki, Roufa, Meltzer, Beverly, Brent, Zinger, Bowdren) Ron was the second BIGGEST in attendance. (Only Steve Beverly is taller than Ron.)

Harry White
St. Louis, MO

Ask Evan

Your comment in "AR" Volume II, #11: No comprendo. How did Bruiser Brody and Jose Gonzales change the course of wrestling history?

Ferk
Baltimore, MD

RL-Listen Ferkster, that was Evan's comment in his last column. Maybe

he'll answer that in his next one.

Wrestle War

I saw Wrestle War on PPV. I don't know what to give it. I don't think it was a great show or a bad show. So I'm undecided. I do feel that Lex should have won the strap. But what do we get? A screw job finish. Do you know what was so embarrassing? Woman telling Flair, "Come on", etc. Since some of you know already, I prefer the WWF over the NWA. But if I was to rate Titan's special & Wrestle War.. I'd go with the NWA. I didn't really care for the Main Event. My local paper did carry the result and a pretty long write up about it the next day and had a nice size picture of Douglas counting as Hogan pinned Savage.

I'd like to bring up a match I attended at the Philly Spectrum on 2/17. The match was between Hogan and Hennig. Hogan was a bloody mess. (The match was good due to Curt.) But what gets me, is that the NWA said they couldn't have blood on the PPV from the Civic Center because the state atheletic commision said no. But Titan had blood and that was PA too. So why couldn't the NWA dig out the blade and use it anyway?

Walt Marshall
Morrisville, PA

RL- It wasn't the commision who told the NWA no blood. It was the PPV companies and since the NWA didn't want to jeopardize their future on PPV they nixed the blade.

Absolute False Letter From Hell

Just thought I'd elaborate on something Ron made brief mention of in the last "AR". (Ron protecting his clean cut image left out some details.) It was Friday night at Teaser's strip bar (RL- Lie #1) in Greensboro, when Harry White renewed his subscription to "AR" by supplying Ron with dollar bills to "feed" the gorgeous (yeah, right) peelers gyrating all over Ron's leg (including the girl with the diaper and Terry Taylor-like stomach scar.) (RL- Lies #2,3,4,5, etc.) Beats a check or money order, I guess- plus Ron had a big smile on his face.

Oh yeah, Flair's daughter said she was 16, okay. (not 14) What do you think I am, apervert or something?

J.Z. Travis
Woodstock, ONT

RL-Who do you think my readers will believe? Me or some prevert who who chases teenage skirts. To all who were offended by this letter. I told Zinger I never would turn any letter down. I may have to change that policy after this tasteless letter. Disgusting! Hey Jeff, thanks for the pic of me with Cactus Jack!

Greensboro Report

No, you did not forsake quality in your report of Wrestle War weekend. Your excitement was 1) very apparent, and 2) very infectious- two ingredients that definatly contribute to the quality of a newsletter. "AR" which has never been a disappointment, only gets better. I hope you never get blase or a "just another day at the matches" attitude in your reports. Most readers aren't getting to the places you go or meeting the people your meeting. So, we want to read all the good (& bad) stuff of someone who is obviously a number one fan having a ball and sharing it with us.

I may be criticized for comparing newsletters, but a big difference between yours and the other well-known, (v-e-r-y- l-o-n-g) newsletters is that I read every word of yours, and have never found myself sighing in boredom, muttering "all right, already" and skipping over alot of print devoted to critisism, speculation and far too much of "they should

do it this way" kind of talk, not to mention-Rollergames.

You report with a good balance of facts and observations with a great sense of humor. It's refreshing that you don't take it all so seriously and bore us to death. The same can be said for most of your contributors. Reading "AR" always leaves me with a good feeling. Its the one newsletter I always read as soon as I come in with the mail. The others sit with the bills and magazines until later or the next day--or until I have alot of T-I-M-E. Another thing...there are so many newsletters, and alot of very good ones, that it can become a pretty expensive habit. Yours is not one I would eliminate.

Here it comes....The only thing I ever get irked at in "AR" is the "inside" comments/jokes that I don't get. You don't suppose I'm one of those "female subscribers who might not understand" kind of people, do you? (Is JJM possibly related to Bobby Heenan?)

Marilyn Rundle
New Paltz, NY

RL- Thanks for the nice comments Marilyn. Your check is in the mail. As far as the inside comments are concerned; I'm sure your not alone. I try to keep them to a minimum. But I don't have time to write to all my "contacts", so little notes in "AR" help.

Call Me A "Hammerhead", Eh?

Counter to your blistering admonishment in the last issue of "AR"--you called me a hammerhead! I did not forget to mention Silo Mike Gunter in the two part "Cosmic Clothesline" column I wrote for "AR" which began last time out and concludes in the next issue of your bulletin. If you really must know...Mr. Silo plays a very important "role" (Hee-hee) in the final installment of my report on really took place when a bunch of you NWA Wrestle War '90 attendees in Greensboro pulled a surprise "run in" over at the WWF Main Event in Motown last month. Sooooo, there!

Jersey Joe (Does Dave Fly?) Mullins
Jersey City, NJ

RL- Don't I give this guy enough space without him sending me a letter in his off issue?

Final Word

Thanks to all who contributed and made this my biggest issue yet. To those who sent letters that don't appear in this ish, you will see them in next weeks edition of "AR". Everyones contribution is appreciated. Until next week from Palmetto, check your pockets for STUFF.

See ya,

Ron

Late Notes - NWA talking about bringing the Von Erichs in. I think if Kerry could keep his act together and get his brain cells to function again, he'd certainly be marketable. But Kevin is hopeless.... Midnight Express saga continues. Jim Herd wants them and won't negotiate. He wants to keep Cornette but Jim won't stay without Lane and Eaton... Correction on Samoans be jobbed out. Samu is being jobbed out as he'll be history soon while Fatu and Savage will be next in line for Steiners.